

In re: Perreault et al
Serial No.: 10/028,384
Filed: December 20, 2001

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated or purified human nucleic acid molecule encoding a human protein that is expressed ubiquitously in human cells, wherein said protein has the potential of generating a plurality of protein fragments binding with high affinity to a human HLA molecule, said nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence coding an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) an amino acid sequence having greater than 97% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:2;
- b) an amino acid sequence having greater than 97% amino acid sequence identity to an amino acid sequence encoded by an open reading frame having SEQ ID NO:1;
- c) an amino acid sequence having greater than 97% amino acid sequence homology to SEQ ID NO:2; and
- d) an amino acid sequence having greater than 97% amino acid sequence homology to an amino acid sequence encoded by an open reading frame having SEQ ID NO:1.

2–83. (Canceled)

84. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1, comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence coding an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) an amino acid sequence 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 ; and
- b) an amino acid sequence 100% identical to an amino acid sequence encoded by an open reading frame having SEQ ID NO:1.

85. (New) An isolated or purified human nucleic acid molecule encoding a human protein that is expressed ubiquitously in human cells, wherein said protein has the potential of generating a plurality of protein fragments binding with high affinity to a human HLA molecule, said nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a nucleotide sequence having at least 91% nucleotide sequence identity with SEQ ID NO:1; and

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b) a nucleotide sequence having at least 91% nucleotide sequence identity with a nucleic acid encoding an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

86. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 85, comprising a polynucleotide 100% identical to SEQ ID NO:1.

87. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said human protein is overexpressed in proliferative cells.

88. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 87, wherein said proliferative cells are tumoral cells and wherein expression of said protein is essential for the tumoral cell's survival.

89. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said HLA molecule is selected from the group consisting of HLA molecules listed in Table 1.